Jumping Bunny

Create a jumping bunny and learn about different types of energy.

Kit contains:

- 2 paper cups
- 2 rubber bands
- 2 “ears”
- 2 googly eyes
- 1 triangle “nose”
- 1 cotton ball
- 4 small straw pieces

You will need: glue, markers or crayons, and a sharp pencil or hole punch.

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INSTRUCTIONS

(1) Use the sharp pencil or hole punch to poke holes on each of the four black dots on the cups. Make sure the holes are about as wide as a pencil.

(2) Take one rubber band and push it from the outside of the cup to the inside, then across to the opposite hole. Leave the end of the rubber band sticking out of each hole.

(3) Put one of the straw pieces in each loop on the outside of the cup. This will hold the rubber band in place.

(4) Do the same thing for the other rubber band. It should look like this picture. →

(5) Next, it's time to make it look like a bunny! Glue on the ears (fold a bit at the bottom), nose, stick on the googly eyes, and draw a mouth and whiskers. Then glue a cotton ball on the back by the bottom.

(6) Now your bunny is ready to jump! Take your non-decorated cup and put it on a flat surface. Put the bunny cup over it and pull it down as far as you can. Then let go! Your bunny should "jump" into the air!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

When a rubber band is really stretched, like it is when you've pushed down your bunny cup, it has a lot of **potential energy** (stored energy). When you let go, that potential energy changes to **kinetic energy** (moving energy) and causes the rubber band to quickly "snap" back into place, which makes the bunny jump! The more you push down, the higher it jumps.

MORE ABOUT BUNNIES

You've probably seen real rabbits hopping around in a park or yard. Rabbits have long feet and very strong muscles in their back legs. Both things help them to jump. Some rabbit jumping facts:

- Rabbits can jump forward 10 feet in one leap!
- The highest rabbit jump ever was over 3 feet!
- Some people with pet rabbits have their rabbits participate in jumping competitions. It is very cute. This is a link, or you can Google "bunny jumping competitions":
  https://youtu.be/rnW3ciLBmJk

BOOKS AND RESOURCES

- *Rabbits* by Hollie J. Endres
- *Rabbit* by Lisa Magloff
- *Why Do Rabbits Hop?* by Joan Holub
- *Rabbits, Rabbits and More Rabbits!* by Gail Gibbons

https://everybunnywelcome.com/how-high-can-bunnies-jump/
https://www.creativelittleexplorers.com/jumping-bunny-cup-craft/